

What is claimed is:

1. A method for obtaining information related to broadcast programming, the method comprising:
 - a. adding at least one data tag to electronic program guide (EPG) data, wherein the at least one data tag contains detail control information relating to broadcast programming, the data tag consisting of one or more of the following elements: (1) a command, (2) at least one parameter, (3) command URL (4) menu option names, (5) menu option actions, (6) menu option parameters, and (7) a start offset and duration;
 - b. transmitting the EPG data and the at least one data tag to a viewer;
 - c. receiving the transmitted EPG data and the at least one data tag by the viewer;
 - d. using the at least one data tag to obtain related programming information from the internet.
2. The method of claim 1, in which the using the at least one data tag further comprises using the at least one data tag to obtain supplemental electronic program guide data from the internet for current or future programming events.
3. The method of claim 1, in which the using the at least one data tag further comprises using the at least one data tag to obtain real-time data from the internet that is synchronized to the program.
4. The method of claim 1, in which the using the at least one data tag further comprises using the at least one data tag to link to at least one website that contains related information to the program.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying the related program information.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the related data is displayed on a computer.
7. The method of claim 5, wherein the related data is displayed simultaneously with the program on a consumer electronic device.
8. The method of claim 5, further comprising purchasing the program using the internet.
9. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the related information in a storage device for later retrieval.
10. A method for using electronic program guide (EPG) data for programming and monitoring broadcast events, the method comprising:
 - a. receiving EPG data on a consumer electronic device, wherein the data comprises (1) content data, (2) control data, or (3) both content and control data;
 - b. interfacing the consumer electronic device with a personal digital assistant (PDA);
 - c. communicating between the PDA and CE.
11. The method of claim 10, in which interfacing further comprises using a serial cable interface to connect the CE and the PDA.
12. The method of claim 10, in which interfacing further comprises using an inferred blaster interface to connect the CE and PDA.
13. The method of claim 10, in which interfacing further comprises using an expansion bus interface to connect the CE and PDA.
14. The method of claim 10, in which the communicating comprises using the PDA to program the CE to automatically record a programming event.

